

NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTOF THEMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHFOR THE YEAR 1947

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1947. No outstanding feature has occurred during the year, but the various Public Health Services have been maintained and in some cases advanced during the year. I would refer especially to Scavenging. Proper vehicles for the collection of refuse are now used throughout the District. I should like to call your attention to the interesting statistics which Mr. Lockwood has supplied regarding the Scavenging in the Northern District. He has given details of both Dry and Wet refuse (the details are recorded under Section C under the heading Scavenging). I think this shows the great amount of work which goes on and is taken for granted and rightly so. But any break down or inefficiency would soon make itself evident.

The condition of Sewerage and Drainage is not so good. Several of the existing Sewage works are only partially working owing to breakdown of parts of the machinery. This is to be regarded as due to ordinary wear and tear and in normal times would be quickly replaced. In these times, however, with shortage of labour and materials it takes a very long time to secure any new part and the best has to be done under the circumstances. Also, unfortunately, the Ministry of Health have not been able to authorise any of the six new sewerage schemes.

Considerable progress has been made in Housing. During the year 26 houses have been completed and occupied, and many more are under construction and will no doubt be completed in the New Year.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases is about the same as in previous years. One case of Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis), occurred. The case was treated in the Oxford Isolation Hospital where 12 beds had been set aside for the study and treatment of these cases. Measles was the most prevalent disease. 105 cases were notified during the year. The details are given under Section F.

SECTION A.GENERAL STATISTICS 1947

Area (in acres)	61,686.
Number of Inhabited Houses	4461.
Rateable Value	£61,882.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£245.
Estimated Population (R.G.)	13,190.

VITAL STATISTICS - BIRTHS

<u>Total Births</u>	270
Males Legitimate	140
" Illegitimate	1
Females Legitimate	123
" Illegitimate	6
<u>Estimated Population</u>	13,190
<u>Birth Rate (per Thousand)</u>	20.47
The Birth Rate for the whole of England & Wales was	20.5
" " " " 126 County Boroughs "	23.3
" " " " 148 Smaller Towns "	22.2
" " " " the London County "	22.7

STILLBIRTHS

	Males	Females
Legitimate	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-

DEATHS

<u>Total Deaths</u>	197
Males	89
Females	108
<u>Estimated Population</u>	13,190
<u>Death Rate (per Thousand)</u>	14.17
Death Rate for the Whole of England & Wales was	12.0
" " " " 126 County Boroughs "	11.8
" " " " 148 Smaller Towns "	11.9
" " " " the London County "	12.3

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Males Legitimate	2
" Illegitimate	-
Females Legitimate	4
" Illegitimate	-

M. O. H. Annual Report (Contd)

STATISTICS (Contd)

From locally compiled statistics I find the Deaths of elderly people gave the following results :-

Ages 70 - 75	..	..	30
Ages 75 - 80	..	..	23
Ages 80 - 85	..	..	24
Ages 85 - 90	..	..	19
Over 90	..	..	<u>7</u>

Total Deaths over 70 108

SECTION B.

There has been no material change in the Services under this heading during the Year.

The Public Health Laboratory at the General Hospital Northampton has rendered good service chiefly in the examination of throat swabs. A good many have been submitted to them and full reports furnished both to the Practitioners concerned and to me. This is a most valuable service.

The Ambulance Service has been most efficient during the year. All cases have been promptly removed to Hospital especially the urgent ones. In the case of accidents, the Ambulance has been quickly on the spot ready to render first aid and remove the cases either to their home or to Hospital. This unobtrusive service is most valuable to the community, and the voluntary services of the St. John Ambulance Brigade deserves the highest praise.

SECTION C.

W A T E R

OLNEY SOURCE

QUANTITY

The supply has been maintained during the year. The daily average output was about 120,000 gallons.


The Council are seeking expert advice as to the possibility of increasing the yield.

QUALITY

During the year 4 bacteriological examinations of the treated water were made. They all showed a high standard of bacterial purity.

The number of new connections made during the year from this source were :-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of connections to houses</u>	<u>No. of standpipes for 2 or more cottages.</u>
Castlethorpe	10	
Clifton Reynes	1	1 for two cottages
Emberton	5	
Hanslope	5	
Lavendon	4	
Newton Blossomville	2	
Olney	55	
Ravenstone	2	
Stoke Goldington	2	
Weston Underwood	1	



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W A T E R (Contd)

BIRCHMOOR SOURCE

QUANTITY

On the whole the supply has been fairly well maintained. Shortages occurred from time to time in Astwood, North Crawley and Hardmead. These shortages were in the main due to mechanical defects, mostly from burst mains.

The number of new connections made from this source during the year were:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of connections to houses.</u>	<u>No. of standpipes for 2 or more cottages.</u>
Bradwell	5	
Broughton	3	
Chicheley	1	
Loughton	9	
Milton Keynes	4	
Moulsoe	5	
North Crawley	1	1 for 7 cottages
Shenley Church End	3	
Sherington	17	
Woolstone	3	
Woughton	4	

I have studied the Report of Messrs. Lemon & Blizard to the Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn Sands Joint Committee.

I do not propose to go into the details of this Report, but there is one point to which I should like to call attention as it affects the supply in this District. The Reservoir at Bow Brickhill has a capacity of 350,000 gallons. The Engineers state that when the level falls below 4 feet in depth no water can pass to the Newport Pagnell Rural District area as the supply main thereto is at too high a level.

That the present capacity of the Reservoir is equivalent to 2/3rds of a day supply on the present average consumption. It is proposed to construct a new Reservoir of 1,500,000 gallons on an adjoining site giving a total storage capacity of 1,850,000 gallons. When this is done there should be no shortage in any of the villages due to mechanical defects.

GREAT LINFORD SUPPLY

QUANTITY

The supply has been maintained during the year.

QUALITY

The bacteriological reports on the treated water have been very satisfactory during the year. The improvements reviewed in my last Report have borne fruit. The results have been good, but I think that constant vigilance is necessary so that the standard arrived at during the past year may be maintained.

The number of new connections made from this source during the year were 2.

W A T E R (Contd)

HAVERSHAM SUPPLY

QUANTITY

In order to increase the storage capacity a new tank has been erected. The capacity of this tank is 4,000 gallons. The two other tanks have a capacity of 7,500 gallons and 1,500 gallons, thus the present storage capacity is 13,000 gallons. An extra 20 houses have been supplied during the year thus making 140 houses, Manor Farm and the School are now on the supply.

QUALITY

Two bacteriological analyses were made during the year. In April the Report was satisfactory. In November the Report was as follows :- "Owing to the presence of coliform organisms in appreciable numbers, the water was abnormal as regards bacterial content. Owing, however, to the absence of Bac.Coli the water was not considered unwholesome but, not of a standard required for a public supply".

At present the water is untreated. In view, however, of these reports which show that the water is liable to some degree of pollution, I think a chlorinating plant should be installed. Thereby a pure and wholesome supply would be ensured.

Number of connections made from this source during the year is 21.

No change has taken place in the other sources of supply, viz: Stoke Goldington, Tyringham, Filgrave and Gayhurst.

PRIVATE WELLS AND SPRINGS

A number of samples have been taken from suspected wells and springs and submitted to analysis. Where these have been found unsatisfactory the Owners of the properties concerned have laid on a piped supply from the Council's mains.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in maintaining the existing Sewage Works due to the supply position.

THE OLNEY WORKS have had the sprinklers overhauled and they are now working well. A scheme for the overhaul of one of the existing sewage pumps and the replacement of the two other pumps with centrifugal electrically driven automatically controlled pumps has been approved by the Ministry of Health, but the pumps are not expected until June or July of 1948, and the reconditioning has not yet commenced.

THE SHERINGTON SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS is only partly working due to the breakdown of the sprinklers during the Spring. Replacements were placed on order forthwith, but are not yet to hand.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing the proper maintenance of the privately owned works for Manor Estate and Fields Estate, Haversham at which the sprinklers are also broken down and awaiting delivery of new parts.

NEW SEWAGE SCHEMES

No further progress has yet been made towards the execution of the Sewage Disposal schemes for Castlethorpe, Emberton, Hanslope, Lavendon, Bradwell and Bow Brickhill. It is to be hoped that the Ministry will soon be in a position to authorise some of these schemes as the demand is urgent.

SCAVENGING

SOUTHERN DIVISION

The two vehicles mentioned in my last Report have now been delivered. Dust collections are now made in all villages fortnightly. Cesspools are emptied when asked for by occupiers. Pails are emptied in the following seven parishes :- Bow Brickhill Little Brickhill, Wavendon, Milton Keynes, Walton, Great Linford and Old Bradwell. Other villages will be served as soon as the necessary labour is available.

NORTHERN DIVISION

The Direct Labour Scavenging scheme has continued to work well despite labour difficulties. During the year a total of refuse, night soil &c. as follows has been collected.

Dry Refuse

67,616 bins giving a total of 700 loads
Also 22 loads of street cleanings have been collected from Olney.

This refuse has been disposed of as follows:-

430 loads at Wavendon
180 loads at Stoke Goldington
10 loads at Newton Blossomville
49 loads at Haversham

Wet Refuse

61,774 Pail Closets have been emptied

23 Privies
27 Cesspools

This gives a total of 326 loads. The Stoke Goldington Lagoon being the place of disposal.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G

26 new houses were completed and occupied during the year. These were in the following Parishes :-

Olney	12
Sherington	4
Loughton	4
Lt. Brickhill	6
Total	26

The following progress or change has been made in the following Parishes :-

Clifton Keynes The Council favoured a site in a field above the Vicarage. A revised plan has been sent to the Ministry of Town & Country Planning occupying the front part of the field. No reply has yet been received.

H O U S I N G (Contd)

Gayhurst

Bath House site $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres. The Solicitors have been instructed to proceed with the purchase. The Owner has agreed to a long lease of extra ground, including the Bath House, to supply the new houses with water.

Hanslope

The District Valuer is endeavouring to negotiate terms for the Northampton Road site.

Hardmead

Plans for 12 houses have been approved.

Haversham

Site 2 acres. Lay-out and plans have been submitted to the Ministry of Health with a request to authorise the Council to negotiate a price with local builders for 8 to 12 houses. It is hoped that 16 houses ultimately will be built on this site. Another site, however, has been suggested of 2 acres at the junction of the Castlethorpe and Little Linford Roads.

Lathbury

Contract for the erection of 4 houses has been settled. The matter is awaiting drainage settlement.

Olney

12 houses completed and occupied. Further houses are under construction.

Ravenstone

Tender for 8 houses has been approved by the Ministry of Health. The houses are for agricultural workers.

Sherington

4 houses have been completed and occupied during the year.

Weston Underwood

4 houses are in the course of construction.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Bradwell

12 houses are in the course of construction.

Bow Brickhill

12 houses are in the course of construction.

Little Brickhill

6 houses have been completed and occupied.

Loughton

4 houses have been completed.

Milton Keynes

The site of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres has been acquired. The plans for the erection of houses are in abeyance.

Moulsoe

8 houses are in the course of erection. The price has been obtained for the erection of 4 more houses. It is hoped to build ultimately 24 houses on this site.

H O U S I N G (Contd)

Shenley Church End

The site of 5 acres will be acquired. Negotiations are taking place with the Bucks County Council as to the amount of land required for school premises.

Woburn Sands

Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the 32 houses on this site. It is hoped that at least 12 will be completed and ready for occupation early in the New Year.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Mr. Casstles has carried out the Survey of a large number of houses. He has classified them under the following headings :-

1. Satisfactory in all respects	1613
2. Minor defects only	570
3. Requiring structural attention or repairs	228
4. Suitable for re-conditioning	50
5. Unfit for habitation and requiring demolition.	87

There are a further 1844 houses yet to be Surveyed.

I think this is a most useful piece of work, as when the time comes for housing to be pushed ahead, the Council will have before it a complete survey. This will be of much help to the Council in planning the Housing Drive.

SECTION E.

Routine inspections of Bakehouses, Food Shops and Premises have been carried out. All defects found have been promptly remedied without Statutory Notices. A total of 1590 lbs. of food, 7 carcasses and sets of organs of sheep found unfit for human consumption. Also 5 cwt. of seed potatoes have been found to be frozen and unfit for sale for seed purposes.

M I L K

Several cowsheds have been reconditioned during the year, and some are in course of reconstruction for the production of a better grade and quality of milk. Routine inspections of premises have been made, samples taken and where found unsatisfactory, the cause of the trouble has been located and so a clean and satisfactory supply obtained.

In spite of the labour difficulties, a number of farmers have taken steps towards being registered for the production of T.T. milk.

M. O. H. Annual Report (Contd)

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE 1.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified.

During the Year 1947

Disease	Total cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	2	
Diphtheria	1	1	
Pneumonia	8		
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	
Measles	105		
Whooping Cough	9		

The cases occurred in the following Parishes

<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Chicheley		1	1
	Haversham		1	1
	Old Bradwell		2	2
	Gt. Linford	1		1
	Loughton	2	1	3
		3	5	8
<u>Diphtheria</u>	Woburn Sands		1	1
<u>Pneumonia</u>	Astwood	1		1
	Great Linford	1		1
	Haversham		1	1
	Lt. Brickhill	1		1
	Box Brickhill	1		1
	Loughton	1		1
	Wavendon	2		2
		7	1	8
<u>Acute Poliomyelitis</u>	Hanslope	1		1

M. O. H. Annual Report (Contd)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

<u>Measles</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Astwood	1	4	5
	Woughton	5	4	9
	Broughton	1	-	1
	Woburn Sands	-	1	1
	Cold Brafieid	-	2	2
	Weston Underwood	1	2	3
	Olney	12	11	23
	Lavendon	2	5	7
	North Crawley	-	4	4
	Willen	-	1	1
	Filgrave	1	3	4
	Gayhurst	2	2	4
	Great Linford	6	11	17
	Woolstone	3	1	4
	Milton Keynes	-	1	1
	Haversham	4	1	5
	Old Bradwell	5	5	10
	Loughton	1	-	1
	Ravenstone	-	1	1
	Lathbury	1	1	2
		45	60	105

Whooping Cough

Little Brickhill	3	4	7
Loughton	2	-	2
<hr/>			
	5	4	9

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Contd)

TABLE 111
TUBERCULOSIS

New cases notified during 1947. Deaths in 1947

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year								
1 - 5 years								1
5 - 10 years								
10 - 15 years	1							
15 - 20 years								
20 - 25 years				1				
25 - 35 years								
35 - 45 years	1					1		
45 - 55 years						1		
55 - 65 years								
Over 65 years								
	2			1		2		1

The two cases of Death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis had been notified.

The Death from Tuberculous Meningitis had not been notified.

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DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised during the year were :-

Under 5 years of age	177
Between 5 - 15 years	10
Those over 5 who received a re-inforcing dose	115

In the coming year I hope to visit all the Schools in the area and give re-inforcing doses to those children who have been immunised 4 years or more. This will reach the majority of children, but there will be others who can only be reached through the family Doctor. The Doctors therefore will be asked to immunise any children under 15 whose parents ask for it, either at the Doctor's Surgery or at the homes of the children, at agreed fees.

This concludes my Report, I am much indebted to Mr. Stapleton your Clerk, and to Mr. Casstles and Mr. Lockwood your Inspectors for the valuable help they have given. The Inspectors have willingly furnished me with any information I have asked for and co-operated with me in every way. I thank them for their ready and willing help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

24th May, 1948.

M. O. H. Annual Report (Contd)

I append the Statistics for 1946

GENERAL STATISTICS 1946

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	61,686
Number of Inhabited houses	...	...	...	4431
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£60,756
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£243. 14. 10d.
Estimated Population (R.G. 1946)	...	...	...	12,890

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1946 - BIRTHS

Total Births	...	...	...	...	265
Males Legitimate	...	...	...	...	118
" Illegitimate	.	...	...	...	11
Females Legitimate	.	...	...	...	126
" Illegitimate	.	...	...	...	10
Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	12,890
Birth Rate (per thousand)	...	...	...	...	20.56
The Birth Rate for the whole of England & Wales					19.1
" " " " 126 County Boroughs					22.2
" " " " 148 smaller towns					21.3
" " " " the London County					21.5

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	—	2

DEATHS

Total Deaths	...	...	...	...	130
Males	...	...	...	...	82
Females	...	...	...	...	98
Estimated Population					12,890
Death rate (per thousand)					13.96
Death Rate for the whole of England & Wales					11.5
" " " 126 County Boroughs					12.7
" " " 148 Smaller Towns					11.7
" " " the London County					12.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Total	...	...	...	...	7
Males Legitimate	...	...	...	...	2
" Illegitimate	.	...	...	...	1
Females Legitimate	.	...	...	...	3
" Illegitimate	.	...	...	...	1

